

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS:

Figure 1 has been amended to include elemental names associated with the elemental numbers on the drawing.

REMARKS

The application has been amended and is believed to be in condition for allowance.

Claims 3, 4, and 9-14 remain in this application. Claims 1, 2, 5-8, and 15-17 are cancelled without prejudice.

The Official Action's indication that claims 3 and 9-13 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form is acknowledged by applicant with thanks.

The Official Action objected to claims 6 and 14 for the usage of abbreviations within the claims.

In response, claim 6 has been cancelled as stated above, and claim 14 has been amended responsive to the Official Action's objection.

The Official Action objected to Figure 1 for not providing elemental names associated with the elemental numbers on the drawing. In response, applicant has provided a replacement Figure 1 responsive to the Official Action's objection.

Claims 3 and 9 have been amended into independent form, incorporating all the recitations of the base claims and any intervening claims and without introducing new matter. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that claims 3 and 9, as amended, are patentable as indicated by the Official Action.

Claim 4 has been amended to depend from independent claim 3. Claims 10, 12, and 13 have been non-substantively

amended for style in consideration of U.S. patent practice and preferences. No new matter is introduced with these amendments.

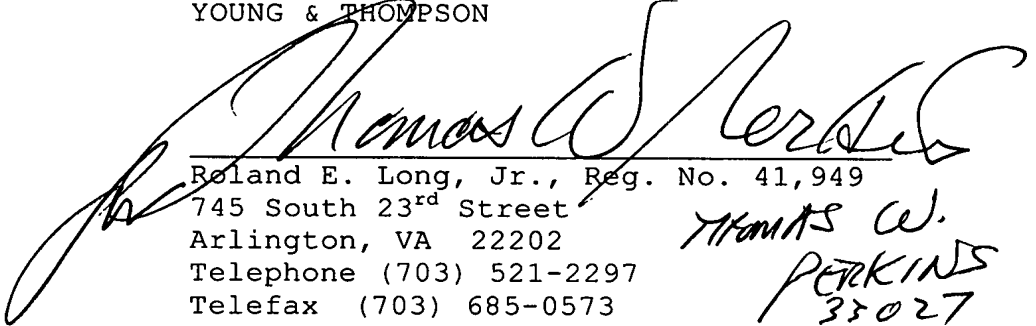
From the foregoing, it will be apparent that applicant has fully responded to the August 1, 2007 Official Action and that the claims as presented are patentable. In view of this, applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the claims, as presented, and their early passage to issue.

In order to expedite the prosecution of this case, it is requested that the Examiner telephone the attorney for applicant at the number set forth below if the Examiner is of the opinion that further discussion of this case would be helpful.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

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